

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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TO: Secretary of State

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During meeting with Selwyn Lloyd and Ormsby-Gore March 4 we discussed inconclusively various possibilities which exist for tripartite discussions by Foreign Ministers before NATO meeting.

Lloyd indicated his awareness of annoyance exhibited by NATO allies over US, UK, French discussion immediately prior to NATO meetings. He felt, however, French would inevitably push for such meeting because they like feeling of being in inner circle. He hoped perhaps tripartite discussions could be limited to afternoon Wednesday April 1 and this might be enough to satisfy French.

Lloyd emphasized importance with which British view US attitude toward USSR note March 2. He expressed hope that Acting Secretary would keep room for manoeuvre in formulating US position. Lloyd felt there was less urgency now that West did not have "pistol to its head".

WHITNEY

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